

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3, 10, 12, 13, 15-24, 27, 28, 30, 31, 34-37, 40, 41, 43, and 45-49 are pending in the application. Claim 2, 4-9, 11, 14, 25, 26, 29, 32, 33, 38, 39, 42 and 44 were canceled previously. Claims 1, 15, 22, and 24 are the only independent claims.

Restriction Requirement

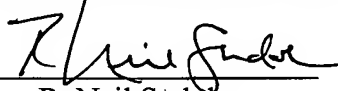
Pending claims 1, 3, 10, 12, 13, 15-24, 27, 28, 30, 31, 34-37, 40, 41, 43, and 45-49 stand subject to a Species Election Requirement according to which the Examiner has divided the application into two species of invention, namely, Species A corresponding to Figures 7-9 and Species B corresponding to Figures 2, 3, 5, and 6.

In response to the Species Election Requirement, applicant elects herein Species A for continued prosecution in the application. Of the pending claims, claims 1, 3, 10, 12, 13, 15-21, 30, 31, and 45-49 are believed to read on the elected species. This group of claims consists of independent claims 1 and 15 and their respective sets of dependent claims.

Should the Examiner believe that direct contact with applicant's attorney would advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number below.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: 28 March 2008